



# The Boy Who Met a Whale

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Tome Society Book Award

## Discussion Guide



### Pre-reading questions

1. The book talks about friendship. What makes a good friend?
2. The story is set in Sri Lanka. What do you know about this country? Look on a map to find Sri Lanka before you read the story.
3. The ocean is a big part of this story. What do you think about protecting the ocean and its creatures? Why is it important?
4. The characters face many challenges in this book. Can you think of a challenge you've faced and how you overcame it?
5. What do you like about the cover? Does it match the description of the book? If you could change the cover, how would you redesign it?

### Post-reading questions

1. What do you think of Razi? Why is he a good friend to Zheng and Shifa?
2. How does Shifa show bravery throughout the story? Can you think of a time you felt brave?
3. What kind of person is Zheng? How does he change throughout the book?
4. Maalu the whale is a unique character. How did she help Razi, Shifa, and Zheng?
5. What was the most exciting part of the book for you? Why?
6. How did Razi, Shifa, and Zheng work together as a team?
7. Can you imagine living on a small island? What would you like and dislike about it?
8. Why do you think the author chose a whale as the main animal in the story?
9. How does the book show that family is important? Can you think of a time your family helped you?
10. Did you like how this book ended? Were you surprised by it? If you could change the ending of this book, how would you change it and why?
11. Who were your favorite and least favorite characters? Why?

### Post-reading activities

1. Create a flyer for your library advertising this book to other students. Ask your adviser about submitting it for the Tome Book Flyer competition.
2. Write a poem from the point of view of one of the characters about an important scene in the book. Ask your adviser about submitting it for the Tome Poetry competition.
3. Make an infographic about Sri Lanka. Ask your adviser about submitting it for the Tome Infographic competition.

### More About This Book

[Author's Website -https://nizranafarook.com/](https://nizranafarook.com/)

Publisher's Discussion Guide:

<https://nosycrow.com/resource/the-boy-who-met-a-whale-discussion-notes-and-activity-ideas/>